
S E C R E T

*****S COPY

FLASH

#2837 1422301

25X1

Z 222216Z MAY 74 ZFF-1 ZFF-4 ZYH
FM THE SITUATION ROOM

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

S E C R E T SENSITIVE EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY

WH41456

25X1

TOHAK 279

PLEASE DELIVER TO BREMER/RODMAN FOR THE SECRETARY

MAY 22, 1974

TO: JERRY BREMER/PETER RODMAN FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER
FROM: BRENT SCOWCROFT

THE FOLLOWING LETTER, THE OUTLINES OF WHICH WERE FRAMED
BY THE PRESIDENT, AND THE TEXT OF WHICH HE CLOSELY REVIEWED, HAS
JUST BEEN DELIVERED TO SHALEV.

QUOTE

MAY 22, 1974

State Dept. review completed

DEAR MADAME PRIME MINISTER:

SINCE THE BEGINNING OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S CURRENT
MISSION TO ASSIST IN BRINGING ABOUT A DISENGAGEMENT OF
FORCES ON THE NORTHERN FRONT, I HAVE STUDIED CAREFULLY
THE MANY COMPLEX ELEMENTS OF THIS DIFFICULT PROBLEM.
IT IS CLEAR THAT COMPROMISE INVOLVES TERRIBLY DIFFICULT
DECISIONS -- THE ANTAGONISMS ON BOTH SIDES ARE DEEP AND
ARE BASED UPON YEARS OF MISTRUST THAT ARE NOT EASILY
OVERCOME. CONTINUED VIOLENCE MAKES MORE DIFFICULT THE
REQUIREMENT TO VIEW THIS MOMENT IN PERSPECTIVE AND TO
RECOGNIZE HOW HEAVILY THE FUTURE PEACE AND SECURITY OF
ISRAEL TURNS ON DECISIONS TAKEN NOW.

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

AS YOU KNOW, MADAME PRIME MINISTER, THE UNITED STATES
HAS BEEN ISRAEL'S CLOSEST FRIEND AND ALLY. OUR RELATION-
SHIP HAS ENDURED FOR MORE THAN A GENERATION IN A SPIRIT OF

* * * * * W H S R C O M M E N T * * * * *

SEC FLE

PSN:050303

PAGE 01

TOR:142/22:50Z

DTG:222216Z MAY 74

S E C R E T

*****S COPY

S E C R E T

*****S COPY

MUTUAL TRUST, UNDERSTANDING AND CONCERN. IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT THAT I READ WITH DEEPEST CONCERN THE RECENT REPORT BY SECRETARY KISSINGER THAT THE DISENGAGEMENT TALKS ARE IN DANGER OF BREAKING DOWN OVER THE THINNING OUT OF ZONES ALONG THE DISENGAGEMENT LINE AS WELL AS OTHER ISSUES WHICH, HOWEVER IMPORTANT, CANNOT BUT SEEM MINOR IN RELATION TO THE SEVERE CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH A BREAKDOWN.

I AM THEREFORE WRITING THIS PERSONAL MESSAGE TO YOU IN ORDER TO INSURE THAT YOU AND YOUR CABINET FULLY COMPREHEND THE DETRIMENTAL EFFECT OF A BREAKDOWN OR RECESS OF THE TALKS FOR WHICH PUBLIC OPINION MIGHT JUDGE ISRAEL TO BE RESPONSIBLE. AS A VERY LONG TIME PERSONAL AND OFFICIAL FRIEND OF ISRAEL, I URGE IN THE STRONGEST TERMS THE MODIFICATION OF YOUR POSITION SO AS TO AVERT A CESSATION OR RECESS OF THE TALKS UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES.

AFTER THESE LONG AND DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS WHICH YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES HAVE SO WISELY PURSUED AND THE HOPES WHICH HAVE BEEN RAISED OF PROGRESS TOWARD A SETTLEMENT, A SETBACK WOULD INDEED BE A TRAGEDY. BESIDES THE THWARTING OF HOPES FOR A MAJOR MOVE TOWARDS PEACE, I FEAR IT WOULD LEAD INEVITABLY TO A DETERIORATION OF CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT, RENEWED OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOVIET INTERVENTION, AND MASSIVE PRESSURE FOR A REASSESSMENT OF UNITED STATES POLICY TOWARD ISRAEL. THAT IS AN OUTCOME WHICH NEITHER YOU NOR I WISH, JEOPARDIZING AS IT WOULD THE ABILITY OF THE UNITED STATES TO PLAY AN ACTIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND TO CONTINUE TO ASSIST IN MEETING ISRAEL'S NEEDS.

MADAME PRIME MINISTER, IN THE CONVICTION THAT WE STAND AT A HISTORIC THRESHOLD IN THE SEARCH FOR A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, I URGE THAT YOU AND YOUR CABINET MAKE A SUPREME EFFORT TO SEEK A COMPROMISE WHICH WOULD PERMIT AN AGREEMENT ON THE DISENGAGEMENT OF FORCES ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS AND ENABLE US TO MOVE ANOTHER STEP AWAY FROM STRIFE AND BLOODSHED AND TOWARD THAT PEACE TO WHICH WE ARE BOTH DEDICATED.

SINCERELY,
RICHARD NIXON

HER EXCELLENCY
GOLDA MEIR
PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL
JERUSALEM

UNQUOTE

PSN:050303

PAGE 02

TOR:142/22:50Z

DTG:222216Z MAY 74

S E C R E T

*****S COPY

S E C R E T

*****S COpY

611

PSN:050303

PAGE 03

OF 03

TDR:142/22:50Z

DTG:222216Z MAY 74

S E C R E T

*****S COpY